

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 INT-08 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10

SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 PA-03 USIA-12

RSR-01 /193 W

----- 121703

R 191435 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8602

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : EMIN ETRN GV JA US AG CG NI SP LI IT

SUBJECT : MIFERGUI MEETING

REF: STATE 063606

1. DURING INFORMAL CONVERSATION WITH ME SINCE HIS RETURN FROM MIFERGUI MEETING TOKYO, ISMAEL TOURE, GUINEAN MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY, STATED THAT MEETING WENT VERY WELL, THAT AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AND THAT PROJECT SHOULD GET UNDERWAY AS EXPECTED.

2. TOURE ALSO SAID HE HAS LEARNED THAT MEMBERS OF FORMER INFORMAL MIFERGUI CONSORTIUM, INCLUDING US STEEL, PLAN MEET LATER THIS MONTH FOR PURPOSE OF RELEASING
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MEMBERS FROM COMMITMENT TO ACT IN COMMON AND LEAVING THEM FREE TO MAKE INDIVIDUAL DEALS WITH NEW CONSORTIUM AS THEY WISH. THE INFORMATION OBVIOUSLY GIVEN IN HOPEFUL NOTE THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THIS ORE- BUYING GROUP WILL IN FACT ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE PROJECT IN ORDER TO GET IT MOVING.

3. HAVE LEARNED FROM ANOTHER SOURCE, HOWEVER, THAT TOKYO MEETING CAN HARDLY BE CONSIDERED A SUCCESS. JAPANESE TRADING FIRM, NICHIMEN, WHICH HOSTED MEETING, DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN DELIBERATIONS BECAUSE OF OBJECTIONS OF NIPPON STEEL, WHICH DENIED HAVING AUTHORIZED NICHIMEN TO SPEAK ON ITS BEHALF EARLIER AND SAID IT NOT INTERESTED IN PURCHASE GUINEAN ORE AT THIS TIME. NIGERIA, WHICH SIGNED AGREEMENT, REPORTEDLY OFFERED TO PARTICIPATE IN FINANCING PROJECT TO EXTENT OF \$100,000 AND AMOUNT USEFUL AS SYMBOL BUT HARDLY FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSES GIVEN OVERALL COST OF PROJECT. ALGERIANS SIGNED BUT NOT WITHOUT SOME EXPRESSIONS OF RESERVATIONS. ZAIRE DID NOT ATTEND. YUGOSLAV FIRM, RUDEES, AND SPANISH FIRM, COFEI, ALSO SIGNED BUT HAVE NO PLANS FOR BUYING LARGE AMOUNTS OF ORE. ISMAEL TOURE TOLD THE PARTNERS THAT A BELGIAN FIRM IS INTERESTED IN BUYING FIVE MILLION TONS, BUT DECLINED TO NAME FIRM INVOLVED. AS A RESULT, THERE WERE VERY FEW COMMITMENTS TO PURCHASE ORE OR TO PUT UP FINANCING NECESSARY TO GET PROJECT STARTED. OUTLOOK FOR PROJECT FOR PRESENT, THEREFORE, SEEMS SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN.

TODMAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CONAKR00605
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730447/aaaaitin.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 063606
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <16-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980126
Subject: MIFERGUI MEETING
TAGS: EMIN, ETRN, AG, CG, GV, IT, JA, LI, NI, SP, US
To: AF
ALGIERS
KINSHASA
LAGOS
MADRID
MONROVIA
ROME

SECSTATE WASHDC

TOKYO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005